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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

LIBRARY

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NEWS LETTER  
Vol.8, no.1.  
January 21, 1920.

Miss Florence J. Lacy who was assistant in the Bindery Division left the Library January 15th to take a position in the Library of the Red Cross.

Miss Kiersted who was called home to Missouri in December by the death of her sister is now needed at home and has therefore decided not to return to the Library.

A periodical set recently acquired by the Library is "Weekblad voor bloembollencultuur vols. 1-27, 1890-1918".

The Department Library is suffering from grip, Miss Wilkins, Miss Trolinger, and Miss Buker have been absent several days.

Miss Oberly who has been with the reclassification committee since June has returned to her work at Plant Industry Library.

The annual reports of the Library are out and may be had by anyone interested in them.

The Library's annual allotment for binding which was unusually small has already been used up. The Division of Publications is endeavoring to get some more money for us. In case they do it will be well for the Bureau libraries to send in as much of their binding as possible early since the binding division is without an assistant and we want to use up whatever extra money they get for us.

Miss Ogden's resignation on January 15th is the most important recent happening in S.R.S. library. Miss Ogden goes to Knoxville, Tenn. to be with her mother and sister and hopes eventually to take up work in Knoxville so as to live with her family. Miss Martha Gericke is in charge of S.R.S. library and Miss Grace O. Furrow was appointed January 1st to assist with the work in connection with the Experiment Station Record. At present S.R.S. library is working with only half a staff, Miss Lewis and two messenger boys being off sick and the other members of the staff almost afraid to go home at night for fear some one else may turn up missing the next day!

Miss Sherman of Markets library has been ill since Saturday with a severe cold and fever.

Miss Groom of Markets library has been on leave entertaining her mother from North Carolina.





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

LIBRARY

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NEWS LETTER

Vol. 8, no. 2.

February 18, 1920.

The past month has seen a number of changes in the Library. Miss Jane Ruth Groome, Periodical section, Bureau of Markets Library is now Mrs. Joseph Love. She was married Saturday Feb. 14 and will be back at her desk tomorrow. Miss Helen D. Lauman was married in December to Lieut. V. R. Judson. She is continuing her work in the Library for the present.

Miss Minnie A. Lewis of S. R. S. Library resigned on February 15th. She has started for California accompanied by her father and will visit her brother in Sacramento, stopping en route for a peep at the Grand Canyon. She plans to loaf a while before looking around for a job.

Miss C. E. Pennington of the Main Library has been transferred to S. R. S. Library to take Miss Lewis' place. Miss Charlotte Trolinger goes from the Catalog Division to take up Miss Pennington's work with Department publications and Miss Margaret T. Olcott has been transferred from the Continuation Desk to the Catalog Division and will occupy Miss Trolinger's desk.

Miss Edna R. Canfield of the Syracuse University Library School has been appointed to the Main Library from the Montclair Public Library, Montclair, N. J.

The west rooms and the halls of the Main Library, including the reference, loan desk, cataloging and ordering rooms have been adorned with fresh coats of paint, which the occupants are enjoying now rather more than during the process of applying.

On February 14th the Library was visited by our new Secretary, Mr. Meredith, the Assistant Secretary, Mr. Riggs and Mr. Harrison.

Miss Sherfy of Dairy Library has been authorized to take over Miss Moore's work and will be the Librarian for the Bureau of Animal Industry with the exception of Animal Husbandry. Miss Moore is still ill and it is not known when she will be out.

Members of the staff are probably familiar with the new publication "The Market Reporter", a printed weekly beginning Jan. 3, 1920. This periodical supersedes five series of mimeographed reports previously issued by the Bureau of Markets as well as the Seed Reporter which was a printed publication. From time to time it may be possible to discontinue other series and include their essential information in the Market Reporter.

S. R. S. Library has acquired an additional room and feels itself very dressy indeed. The staff now feels that it can take a long breath without upsetting a near by piece of furniture.

Farm Management Library in its share of space in the News Letter wishes to call the attention of the staff to an editorial entitled "Lo, the poor librarian" published in the Independent Woman, v. 1, no. 2, January 20, 1920, p. 4. The article laments the poor salaries paid librarians and quotes from "the Girl and the Job" by Helen C. Hoerle and



and Florence B. Saltzberg. If any one wants to read this short article doubtless Farm Management Library would be glad to lend the periodical, or perhaps it would be well for the staff to purchase the number and present it to the Reclassification Commission as a belated Valentine.

*Property of Saltzberg*





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

LIBRARY

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NEWSLETTER

Vol.8 no.3

March 19, 1920.

One of the most interesting happenings of the last month is the appearance of the Report of the Reclassification Committee. It has 1500 pages, consequently very few have been printed and they are very hard to get. It has been suggested that we apply to our Senators and Representatives for copies so they will have more printed. While it should not necessarily be for general distribution, it is an important document and should be available at least in the libraries throughout the country.

There will be a discussion of the Reclassification at the next meeting of the District Library assn Wednesday March 24th., at the Public Library.

The Scientific and Technical Section of the Federal Employees Union has appointed a publicity committee, for the purpose of giving publicity to the reclassification through scientific and technical associations and periodicals. Miss Oberly is a member of the committee and responsible for the work for the library service, and also for womens organizations. She will be glad of any suggestions or assistance in that work.

A civil service examination for library assistant was held on February 18th. Only 12 took it. Among these were Miss Trolinger and Miss Canfield who had been appointed to the Department library, pending certifications. We are glad to know that they both passed.

Miss Mary G. Lacy, who is working for the Scripps' Economic Bu. has arranged to give half time for two months to Mr. Collins office Bureau of Plant Industry, in order to get into better shape the Corn Index which she started and has been working for several years. While doing this she occupies her old desk in the Dept. library reading room. she is not however working for the library.

Miss Brandes is assisting at the Periodical Desk at present and Miss Canfield is learning the work at the Loan Desk. Miss Walton has also been learning the work at the periodical desk and is now at the Serial entry desk, while Mr. Umhau is taking her place at bookkeeping.

Miss Marion D. Johnson has been appointed as a temporary typist in the Department Library.

Bibliographies on the Cost of production of Wheat, Oats, Rye, Barley, Silage, and Milk have been compiled by Miss Feldkamp in the Library of the Office of Farm Management. Also one on Labor distribution.

Miss Marion Bowman of the library of the Office of Farm Management has resigned to take charge of the library of the architectural firm of Kilham and Hopkins, Boston, Mass.





The first of the year Miss Margaret Welch resigned from the library of the Weather Bureau to accept a position in the Library of the Interstate Commerce Commission.

Miss Pidgeon of the Bureau of Plant Industry library is assisting Miss Herbert of the Public Library in giving a course of lectures on library science before the Young Womens Christian Assn. Two lectures a week for a period of six months.

The Library of the Bureau of Markets has nothing to report but the Bureau is interested in the fact that the Index to the Seed Reporter is out. This covers v.1, no.1 to v.3. no.4, Nov.1917 to Oct.1919 which completes the series, the work now being covered by the Market Reporter.

If there are any of you who have not read the Speech of the Secretary given in New York, April 12, before the Merchants Association I would suggest that you do so, as you need it at this particular time. Copies may be borrowed from the Department Library.

The agricultural appropriations bill has some very important changes which if passed will be a great advantage to the Department Library. They are doing away with the seven smaller positions which were very difficult to fill and making 1 1800, 2 1600, 1 1440, and 2 1400 dollar positions, besides adding \$4000 to the general fund.

C.S. Barnes  
Markets.

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THESE ARE THE TERMS OF THE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE PARTIES  
AND IT IS THE INTENTION OF THE PARTIES THAT THE CONTRACT  
SHALL BE BINDING ON THEM AND THEIR SUCCESSORS.

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WITNESSES



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
LIBRARY

NEWS LETTER  
v.8,no.4  
April 14, 1920

For the time being Reclassification seems to be superseded by the Retirement bill as a topic of library conversation. Such discussion of course is of purely academic interest in the Main Library, owing to the brevity of the average term of service, but if Congress keeps on progressing backward in regard to the age limit, old timers like Ye Scribe will soon be on the firing line.

The Reclassification report was the chief topic at the meeting of the D. C. Library Association on March 24th. General principles were explained by Miss Oberly, and some defects and inconsistencies in the classification of library workers pointed out by Miss Thompson, Librarian of the Department of Labor. The Legislative committee of the D. C. L. A., of which Miss Barnett is chairman, presented resolutions commending the objects of reclassification and its recognition of the professional status of library work under the government, while reserving approval on details, and the committee was authorized to act in an investigating and advisory capacity in connection with any legislation effecting librarians which may arise from the Reclassification. The Advisory Wage committee is also continuing its activities in the interests of the library workers in the government service.

An unprecedented sale is assured for the issue of the Saturday Evening Post in which Dr. E. V. Wilcox's article on "Librarians" is soon to be forthcoming. Knowing some of the (personal) reasons for Dr. Wilcox's appreciation of our profession, we are on the alert for a few pen portraits of some librarians he has known!

The Department Library is sorry to lose Miss Glidden, who has been here for 15 months, coming from the Colorado State Agric. College Library. Miss Glidden is leaving the Library today, and strikes permitting, expects to go in a few days to Cedar Falls, Iowa, where she will spend the summer with her family and do some gardening, before starting out again in library work.

Miss Edith Brown, who has been in the American Red Cross Library, has been appointed an assistant in the Department Library. Miss Brown received her library training at Simmons College.

Miss Anna Howard, a graduate of the N. Y. State Library School, comes from the War Dept. to carry on the bibliography of maize which has been so finely developed by Miss Mary G. Lacy for Mr. Collins of Plant Industry. While we are sorry that Miss Lacy is leaving the Department, we are a little consoled by her presence at the Library for part of each day for a time, while she puts her work in shape to turn over to her successor.

On April 6th the Department Library had a visit from Miss Topping and Miss Huntington, two members of the Albany Library School who were prevented from taking part in the biennial Washington visitation last year.





Miss Sarah Meredith, who was for some time employed on the implement index in the Library of Farm Management, and later in charge of files in the section of Agricultural Geography in the same office, has gone to Chicago to take a position under the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

Mrs. Isabel Marshall Price has been temporarily appointed an assistant in the library of States Relations Service.

Miss Draper started this morning for New York, in the expectation of attending the meeting of the Special Libraries Association, April 15-16. She has sent up to the meeting a very complete exhibit of government publications of interest to the business man, which she has collected with great care. It is to be hoped that this exhibit may be kept together after her return, so that members of the departmental library service may have a chance to see it.

Another of our branch librarians expecting to attend the Special Libraries meeting is Miss Feldkamp, who is combining this opportunity with a little pleasure trip to New York in company with her sister. Miss Barnett is planning to go tomorrow also, unless railroad conditions prevent.

Plant Industry library has been having quite a number of visitors from "foreign parts" lately. Mr. J. B. Rorer, once in the Bureau, and now in charge of the Ecuador Experiment Station, was in Washington for a number of weeks, and was frequently in the library. Mr. K. Nakata, Asst. Prof. Plant Pathology in the Kiushiu Fukuoka Imperial University, Fukuoka, Japan, who is studying in Dr. Erwin F. Smith's laboratory, spends a great deal of time down stairs with the catalog and reference books. Dr. P.J.S. Cramer of Buitenzorg has also been a frequent visitor, and the other day Mr. Domingo B. Paguirigan y Amalingan of the Philippine Islands, who is a graduate student at the Connecticut station, was looking up information of wrapper tobacco which is the subject he is specially studying.

As the mode of electing the Program committee tried at last meeting did not seem very satisfactory, another proposition was circulated with the notices for the present meeting, calling for the selection of one new member each month (or for each meeting), to be chosen by the chairman with advice and approval of Miss Barnett. It was expected to continue the practice adopted last fall of keeping the chairman of the previous meeting on the committee, to serve as a kind of liaison officer for the next meeting, but it has been pointed out that this is confusing, and it would seem more logical to always have the senior member of the committee act as chairman, afterwards retiring automatically; this, however, can easily be accomplished by the simple expedient of appointing two new members the first time. One of the objects of this constant renewal of the committee is to secure the cooperation of a larger proportion of the staff, and it has been suggested that the new members be chosen more frequently from among those who have never served, and as far as possible from those who have not served for some time. There seems to be an impression in some quarters, moreover, that the branch libraries should be more largely represented on this committee, and it would seem to be a good way to insure representative membership to have a card list of persons in the departmental library service kept in the Librarian's office, showing which ones have acted on the committee, and the dates of service, thus forming a list of eligibles.

(Signed)

M. F. Warner  
Chn. Program Committee.





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

LIBRARY.

NEWS LETTER  
Vol. 8, no. 5.  
May 13, 1920.

The writer has been asked to remind you of the notice sent out about two years ago concerning the reviewing of special periodicals for free material. The Main Library is very anxious to find out where such material may be obtained, but has received almost no assistance from the Bureau libraries during the past year. Any information on this subject should be sent to Miss Helen Thompson.

A Civil Service examination for the position of scientific assistant in library science will be held on May 19, 1920. The Main Library has also received notice of an examination for library assistant to be held on June 23.

Miss Florence Thompson has been transferred from the Main Library to take the position of Associate Librarian in B. A. I. The libraries of Dairy Division and of Animal Industry, with the exception of Animal Husbandry, are in the process of consolidation. At present Miss Sherfy is on the <sup>3rd</sup> fourth floor and Miss Thompson on the second, but they hope to be able to join forces soon.

Miss Helen Thompson contributed the following note: "Miss Adelaide Hasse has completed a course of twelve lectures on Public Documents, in connection with the Washington School for secretaries. Eleven were in the class, ten of whom were from the Dept. of agriculture library and branches. This includes Miss Mary Lacy whom we regard as one of us."

The Index Section of the Division of Publications has been keeping in triplicate a very minute card index to the publications of the Department. The work





has now been arranged so that for the future only one copy is to be kept in the Division , and the Department Library has been presented with one copy of the index, which is at present filed in the hall. It is doubtful whether the Library can afford to keep up this index even if presented with copy from which cards can be made. It is hoped that, even although no additions are made, the index will still be useful.

Miss Duval seems to feel that Chemistry Library, hitherto newsless, has nobly redeemed itself. Miss Draper surely exploded a bomb in our unsuspecting midst when she attended that very special meeting in Grace Church, New York, on April 19. We understand that she must now be addressed by the euphonious title of Mrs. Henry Dutton Noble. Mr. and Mrs. Noble are leaving for Atlantic City the latter part of this week, and from there will go to Auburn, New York where they expect to make their home. Miss Duval is now librarian in the Bureau of Chemistry.

Miss Oberly kindly furnished the following item on on the reclassification work: " The Library Committee which acted with the Commission on Reclassification of Salaries is at work preparing a statement concerning salary recommendations in the report which were considered entirely inadequate. The work of this Committee will go to the central committee of the Federal Employees Union, and then if it seems advisable, these recommendations will be suggested as amendments to the bill."

On May 6 Miss Oberly spoke before the Twentieth Century Club on the enlarged program.

We think that no one in this assembly will have any difficulty in recognizing the authorship of the following item contributed anonymously from P. B. I. Library with the statement that it was strictly unauthorized and unofficial: "A vegetable egg-nog produced by crossing the milk weed with the egg plant, is the latest novelty brought forward by one of the B. P. I. librarians, who is still undecided whether it is advisable, in a dry town, to attempt further improvement of the hybrid by graft-





An annotated bibliography of the official publications relating to the acts administered by the Bureau of Markets has been prepared in the library of that Bureau. It is of value chiefly on account of its annotations which call attention to the amendments, revision, etc. issued at a later date than the basic publications which from appearances are complete in themselves.

The H. W. Wilson Co. has agreed to add the Market Reporter published by the Bureau of Markets to its list of agricultural periodicals indexed.

Contributed by Miss C. B. Sherman



ing it on *Stillingia sylvatica*. We recommend this item to our esteemed contemporary, the Journal of Heredity, and suggest as a parallel line of research the query whether a Plant Industry librarian can be evolved by training a bartender in the methods of plant breeding."

At the last meeting of the Agricultural History Society Miss Warner read a paper on "An early American book on kitchen gardening." This book is attributed to John Randolph Jr. who was the last colonial attorney-general of Virginia.

Markets Library is rejoicing over the addition of another room, no. 703, which communicates with the large reading room. They now have four rooms and Miss Sherman feels that "the library has adequate and pleasant space". Entomology wishes she would whisper how she did it. Recent visitors to Markets Library include Miss Reynolds, librarian of Swift & Co., Mr. Ross, librarian Graduate School of Business Administration, Harvard University, and Miss Kelly of the John Crerar Library.

Miss Wilkins asked me to call your attention to the fact that the 1920 issue of "Ayres American Newspaper Annual" contains in the back an alphabetical list of the ~~newspapers~~ <sup>Periodicals</sup> referred to in the geographical section.

A gentleman from the Bureau of Fisheries visited Entomology Library just in time to be handed down to posterity in this News Letter. He claimed that he had seen reviewed in the Experiment Station Record, and article by an old friend of his on an insect injurious to oyster shells. With doubtful eyes we produced the Bulletin of Entomological Research for which he asked, and found a very instructive article on "The predacious mite *Hemisarcptes malus* and its relation to the natural control of the oyster-shell scale". Our visitor was game, and returned to his aquarium chuckling softly at his own expense.

Entomology Library is afflicted with a plague of mice. As they seem to have a strong passion for literature we suggest that if the Main Library can furnish us





with a copy of that excellent work entitled "The Mouse trap", we will be eternally grateful. When the writer sighed for a Pied Piper, her immediate superior suggested Mr. Cheesman as a logical candidate.

Signed

*Dina L. Hawes,*

Chairman Program Committee.



THE H. W. WILSON COMPANY

Publishers of Indexes and Reference Works

958-964 University Avenue

New York City.

May 8, 1920.

Miss Caroline B. Sherman, Lib'n and Editor  
Bureau of Markets  
U. S. Department of Agriculture  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Miss Sherman:-

Your letter has been referred to this Department for attention and we have given very careful consideration to the copies of Market Reporter which you have sent. These have been of much interest to both our Editorial and Promotion Departments and our editor will include this publication in our list of those already indexed.

While some of the material is not strictly speaking suitable for indexing, being so clearly statistical, we shall be able to direct attention to it under suitable subject headings and cross references and will do so in as many cases as possible.

We fully appreciate the importance of such information in all agricultural centers and are very glad indeed to cooperate by making reference to this service in our Index.

The typewritten sheets of comments on the Reporter which you kindly loaned us have been returned to you under the franking slip which you enclosed and we hope will reach you safely.

We are very glad to know that you find our Agricultural Index of value in your work and shall appreciate comments or suggestions from you at any time since we aim so far as possible to be practically a clearing house of agricultural information.

While it is of course not possible to adopt all the suggestions sent us we find this a very fertile source for constructive extension as conditions permit.

Thanking you for your interest and cooperation and assuring you that we shall always be glad to have a few lines from you, I am

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Jean MacKinnon Holt,

In Charge of Promotion for the  
Agricultural Index.

JMH:EW

(C O B Y )



Department of Internal and External Affairs

100-100000-100000

New York City

May 3, 1934

Miss Caroline E. Shannon, 1100 10th Avenue

Room 1100

U. S. Department of Agriculture

Washington, D. C.

My dear Miss Shannon:

Your letter has been received in this Department. The information and data which you have furnished to the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine are being reviewed. It is expected that a report will be made to you within a few days.

While some of the material is not suitable for publication, the information which you have furnished is being used in the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine. It is expected that a report will be made to you within a few days.

We fully appreciate the assistance of each individual in all official matters and are very glad to have the opportunity of making reference to this matter in our report.

The Department desires to continue to receive information from you and is very glad to have the opportunity of making reference to this matter in our report.

We are very glad to have the opportunity of making reference to this matter in our report. It is expected that a report will be made to you within a few days.

While it is of course not possible to make all the suggestions which you have made, it is very gratifying to receive the constructive criticism and suggestions which you have made.

Thanking you for your interest and suggestions and wishing you that we shall always be able to have a free flow of ideas, I am,

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Fred Shannon, Director

In Charge of Division for the  
Department of Agriculture



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Library

NEWS LETTER

v.8, no.6

June 23, 1920

Miss Davis has just returned from her vacation. She attended the Simmons commencement and visited Miss Bowman and Mrs. Howe.

Miss Parker, formerly Chief of the Binding Division of the main Library, visited the Library last week and worked a half-day at her old desk.

Mrs. Judson leaves us on July 1st. She and Lieut. Judson have planned a trip to Buffalo and Cleveland, and will start for Florida about the middle of August, going by automobile. After a week's visit with Mr. Judson's parents, they will tour Florida and we hope, find their ideal farm.

Miss Cook, assistant in the library of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute, came just in time to take up Miss Swart's work while she is on her vacation. Miss Cook will probably be here until the 1st of August.

Mr. Eugene Upton is spending the summer in the Periodical Division.

On the marriage of Miss Draper, Miss Duvall was promoted to the position of librarian of the Bureau of Chemistry. Miss Beckwith left the periodical division to be her assistant, Miss Olcott taking Miss Beckwith's place.

Miss Gericke is spending her vacation at Spring Lake, New Jersey, and reports a good time and good weather.

States Relations Service librarians visited Home Economics two weeks ago. Dr. Hunt and Miss Atwater made brief addresses. The party was shown through the kitchen.

Miss Colcord went on a vacation Sunday, June 20th. She expects to go to Cambridge to attend the Radcliffe Commencement and then to Rockport for a visit. She does not expect to return to the Bureau of Entomology until July 8th.

Miss Feldkamp's resignation takes effect on July 1st, and she expects to take up her new duties as reference librarian at the Michigan Agricultural College on August 1st. We feel that this is a great loss to the library staff and to the Office of Farm Management as well. During the twelve years that Miss Feldkamp has been in charge of the Library of the Office of Farm Management, she has not only built up the collection but compiled bibliographies to be sent out as well.

In seeking to make a partial estimate of the return in "dollars and cents" for all federal funds appropriated, the Farm Management library finds that most of the members of the scientific staff of this Office reported



a saving of half an hour a day as an average. As the time of the scientists is more valuable than the library clerk's time, this would make the Library more than self-supporting.

The Republican platform on agriculture was read.

(Signed) Marie F. Fisher,  
Chairman.





U.S. Department of Agriculture.  
Library.

NEWSLETTER.

v.8, no.7.

Oct.27, 1920

Miss Lucy Ogden, for many years in charge of the S.R.S. Library, accepted a temporary appointment of three months in the Department Library in September. It was of the greatest assistance that she could be with the Library during the time that Miss Helen Thompson was away for her vacation, and also while Miss Barnett was absent on her trip to visit middle western libraries. Miss Ogden was in the reference room during that time. Unfortunately she felt obliged to leave before the three months was up, her Mother's health not being so good. She therefore resigned before the end of October.

Mrs. Ernestine Packard Howe has been working temporarily in the Library, during a visit to Washington. She came September 6, and is leaving on Saturday of this week. She has given the cataloguing a very good boost during these few weeks.

Miss Jessie Callan was appointed as assistant in the Department Library about September 1st, and worked in the Catalogue Division. She has now been lent to the Bureau of Markets Library, which has been suffering from a depletion of its force.

Mrs. Alma E. Warthen has been appointed translator in the Bureau of Chemistry and is attached to the Bureau Library, as was formerly Mr. Perkins.

Miss Hall resigned from the Farm Management Library in September. Miss Graves is taking her place as assistant.

During Miss Nye's vacation this summer, Miss Eakin of the office force in Home Economics took charge of the circulation of magazines, and of the filling of requests.

Miss Florence Thompson of B.A.I., and Miss Sherfy of the Dairy Division, (both in the bureau library, under the new arrangement, even though the libraries are not physically consolidated as yet) took turns doing each others' work so that each was able to have a short vacation.

Miss Anna Howard of the Department Library and Mrs. Ruby Edmonds have joined the S.R.S. Library staff. Mrs. Edmonds comes from the Library of the Engineers' School.

of the B.P.I. Library

Miss Florence P. Smith is in the hospital at present having her tonsils removed. When she recovers, she will go to the Woman's bureau, Labor Dept., where she has accepted a position as research assistant. It is with great regret that the B.P.I. Library parts with her, but as this seems to be a real opportunity for her in the line of work in which she is interested, no effort was made to keep her here. Miss Smith was first in the Dept. Library and was transferred to the B.P.I. Library in 1906.





Miss Berith Parsons, formerly index clerk in the War Dept., and more recently assistant in the Library at Walter Reed Hospital, has been appointed assistant in the B.P.I. Library, her appointment to take effect November 1st. It is planned that she will take the Periodical Desk, Miss Sherman will go to the Loan Desk, and Miss Pidgeon will assist Miss Oberly with the indexing and will do translating.

Miss Oberly visited libraries in Boston and New York last week, on her return trip from her vacation. She saw much of interest, but was confirmed in her opinion that not many libraries are so well organized as that of the Dept. of Agriculture.

Miss Barnett and Miss Wilkins have recently returned from a ten day trip to Madison, Wis., Columbus, Ohio, Chicago, Lafayette, Ind. and Champaign, Illinois. The trip was taken for the express purpose of visiting libraries in those places, and they found much of interest,

Miss Mary E. Griffith, formerly assistant librarian of the Bureau of Markets, who left the Department almost a year ago, has returned as scientific assistant to help in the preparation of a report on the retail meat situation, under Mr Marshall, the Assistant chief of the Bureau of Markets.





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Library

NEWS LETTER

v.8, no.8

Nov. 18, 1920

serve

The Department Library, having difficulty in filling its positions, employed as temporary assistants this summer several persons from other libraries, who were desirous of coming for the experience they might gain. These were Miss Mary K. Cook, from the Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Mrs. Helen S. Torrence, from Clemson College, South Carolina, Miss Leila G. Forbes, Randolph-Macon College, and Miss Harriet G. Brown, Lake Erie College.

Miss Buker, who had been for a year in the Department Library resigned in September, in order to attend the New York State Library School.

Miss Johnson, who had been in the Library since last spring as a typist, was unfortunately obliged by illness to leave the last week in September. She assures us that she will return the first of January.

Miss Mary F. Carpenter, who resigned from the Library of the Department of Commerce the first of July to take a summer course in Columbia University, was appointed to the Department Library in August and has since that time been assisting at the loan desk.

Miss Helen M. Thompson has been in charge of the reference work in the Department Library, since the first of August, and Miss Hawks has been at the head of the Catalog Division.

Miss Callan, who was appointed to the Department Library in October, and later was lent to the Bureau of Markets, has been transferred to the latter library, effective Nov. 1st, 1920.

It is with great regret that the Department Library has parted with Miss Swart, who has been for five years in the Library. She has resigned to go to the New York State Library, in order to be near her mother as her father has recently died. Miss <sup>Edith</sup> Louise Endicott, who has been newly appointed to the Library, is taking charge of the bindery work. Miss Endicott received her training in the Washington Public Library and at the Pittsburgh Library Training School, and has been recently in the El Paso, Texas, Public Library. Another addition to the Library staff is Mr. Thomas Cowles, who was appointed as a "clerk-translator" and is working in the Periodical Division.

The Library has recently acquired another room. It will readily be believed that this is very much needed and is very welcome. Its location cannot be said to be choice, as it is in the basement, and without outside light, but it is of very good size. It has been used as a storeroom by the Bureau of Crop Estimates. The present entrance is through a room at the south of the building, but a door is to be cut into it from our "Folio room." Snead shelving has already been ordered for it, and Miss





Barnett plans to shelve there the sets of American farm journals and probably some of the other large periodicals of similar character, such as the horse and poultry journals.

The Bureau of Markets was able to bind several copies of Vol. 1 of the Market Reporter from a special fund available at the end of the last fiscal year. Bound copies have been presented to the Main Library and to those branch libraries that expressed a wish for copies. It is by no means certain that funds for the purpose will be available next year, however.

The Secretary of Agriculture has approved of the consolidation of the Bureau of Markets and the Bureau of Crop Estimates. The idea was presented to him by a joint memorandum from the Chiefs of the two bureaus. This recommendation has been made by the Secretary in his estimates to Congress for the coming year.

Miss Mary G. Lacy is taking a short rest and vacation in New York State.

Forage Crops has had another moving day. It is now in Wing 7, Building F, on the corner of 7th and B Sts, which is of course, nearer the Department than its former quarters on D St. near 18th.

Miss Severance who is a graduate of Mt. Holyoke College, has been transferred from the B.A.I. file room to the library of the Bureau where she will assist Miss Florence Thompson.

The Bureau of Entomology Library, in response to an outside request has recently compiled a list of the entomological societies in the United States and Canada, with names of officers and addresses.

This Library has also brought up to date a list of Farmers' Bulletins and a list of Department bulletins wholly on insects or containing references to insects, with index to same.

If anyone wishes information on handling "library fires" she is requested to call on Miss Hawes for enlightenment.

At the recent Fall meeting of the D.C. Library Association Dr. Putnam was re-elected president, Miss Oberly second vice-president, Miss Colcord, secretary and Miss Abbott of the Superintendent of Documents Office, treasurer.

An examination for Scientific assistant in library science is to be held by the Civil Service Commission on December 8, and for Library assistant on December 15.







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The Department plans this year to make its Yearbook more truly what the name suggests. Instead of the collection of miscellaneous and unrelated articles which usually constitute the main part of the volume the articles this year will be planned to present in popular form some of the distinct achievements, or significant pieces of work of the year. The production statistics in the back of the volume will be supplemented by rather extensive compilations of statistics relating to distribution and marketing.

The Department is also working on a Farmers' Almanac to be issued early in 1921. Mr. Eristow Adams of the editorial staff of Cornell, who assisted in the publicity work of this Department during the war, is here for a short period on leave from Cornell, and is undertaking to get the Almanac out in record time.

The Lehlbach reclassification bill, which is a revision of the bill submitted to Congress last year by the Commission on the Reclassification of Salaries, is now in print, and it is hoped that it will soon be submitted to Congress. This bill omits all of the previous bill pertaining to employment measures, such as sick leave, overtime, and the Advisory Council of employees. The classification is much simplified, and no qualifications for the various positions are included. There are also changes in the provisions for the administration of the classification. The library classification is a great improvement over the one in the former report. The number of classes is reduced from 37 to 4 general classes, and three individual classes, the latter providing for the librarians of the Public and



~~and~~ Congressional Libraries. There are in addition 2 so-called "sub-professional grades" not requiring full library training. The professional grades rank in salary recommendations with the other professional and technical positions, which is a great gain over the ~~other~~<sup>previous</sup> bill, in which the library salaries were entirely inadequate. On the whole, the librarians in Washington are to be congratulated on having gained this recognition for their profession, and the sympathetic support of the scientific men who were concerned in the revision of the bill, had a great deal to do with their gaining this point.

The Bureau of Markets Library maintains a list of coming conventions of interest to the Bureau, which is posted on the library bulletin board. This information is gathered from various sources. The library will be glad to have any of the Bureau libraries make use of this list if they care to.

The publications of the American Chambers of Commerce in foreign countries have been requested by the Department library and are filed in the Bureau of Markets library. The activity of the business world regarding commerce with foreign countries is great at this time under the Edge act, which authorizes banking corporations to do foreign ~~sign~~ banking business. It is believed, therefore, that this collection will be of great interest.

The B. A. I. library has finally been given an additional room on the 2d floor in the East Wing and this has made it possible to bring together in two rooms all the library work of the Bureau. The books which were formerly in the Dairy Division library on the





4th floor have been removed to the 2d floor and merged with the Bureau library. This move has completed the consolidating of the library work of the Bureau which has been pending for a year.

Entomology reports a record circulation in its library last week when a visitor, en route for the A.A.A.S. meetings, stopped by with a large box of references and stayed two whole days, without meat or drink, verifying same. He consumed about 250 volumes a day and at the end of the revel expressed the hope to the assistant librarian that "we might rest in peace"! "In pieces" she corrected feebly.

The Bureau of Entomology library has made up three special bibliographies lately in response to needs of the Bureau, one being of the publications of Shonen Matsumura, a prominent Japanese entomologist, who was visiting the Bureau earlier in the month.

The Bureau of Markets library has recently prepared bibliographies on the "History of the tobacco industry in the United States", "The tonnage of Farm Products", "Fruit Auctions" and "Standardization of Fruits and Vegetables".

Speaking of bibliographies, Miss Fisher of Farm Management, reports that John Phelan's "Readings in Rural Sociology" (Macmillan, 1920), which has been recently ordered by the Department library, has unusually satisfactory bibliographies at the close of each chapter.

Some time after the first of the year the Division of Market Statistics will issue a publication containing a statistical market





review. It will contain not only prices of various farm products but also details of the commercial movements of the commodities embraced by the work of the Bureau of Markets. Many of the details will extend back over a period of eleven years, while others will cover a shorter period of time, due to the fact that records can be had only from material accumulated by the Bureau of Markets since its establishment. The purposes of this work are to discover the trend of prices with a view to correlating them with production, commercial movement and consumption.

The Bureau of Markets is now sending out daily market reports by wireless. This is an experiment which has been planned to show whether it is a practical thing to send market reports out in this way. Once each day the "Daily Radio Marketgram" is sent out from the Bureau of Standards at 5 P.M. Any amateur operator within a 200 mile radius can receive them. These marketgrams govern prices and market conditions of fruits, vegetables, grain, dairy products, hay, feed, seed, live stock and meats, at the principle markets of the nation. It is intended that amateur operators receiving the reports shall place the information in the hands of Shippers Associations, County Agents, State Bureaus of Markets, Farm Bureaus and other organizations. As this news can be picked up by an amateur it is expected that farmers organizations and others interested will get in touch with the wireless operators in their vicinity.

The Bureau of Standards is cooperating with the Bureau of Markets in this experiment, which will continue for perhaps three months.

Miss Canfield, of the Catalog division of the Main Library, has



been obliged, on account of ill health, to go to her home in New York State, where she will remain until the middle of January.

Miss Marion Johnson, who <sup>also</sup> is away on account of ill health ~~also~~, has requested another month's leave and will not return until February. And we are very much afraid that she will find Texas so attractive that she will not return even then.

Mrs. Nichols, who has lately received her Doctor's degree from Columbia University, has been appointed temporarily as library assistant in the Main Library.

Miss Olive Marshall of Garnett, Kansas, has been appointed as clerical assistant in the Bureau of Markets library.

The next meeting of the District of Columbia Library Association will be of especial interest to members of our staff, inasmuch as Miss Mary G. Lacey, Librarian of the Bureau of Markets, will speak on some phases of library work "scientific, technical and educational". The other speakers will be Miss Thompson of the Department of Labor and Miss Herbert of the Public Library. This meeting will be next Wednesday evening, Jan. 5, at the Public Library.

*Prepared by Miss Sherman*  
B P J



